8-17-00

<u>IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE</u>

IN RE APPLICATION OF:

Yoko ASAKURA et al

NEW APPLICATION

SERIAL NO: NEW APPLICATION

FILED: HEREWITH

FOR: METHOD OF CONSTRUCTING AMINO ACID PRODUCING

BACTERIAL STRAINS, AND

METHOD OF PREPARING AMINO ACIDS BY FERMENTATION WITH THE CONSTRUCTED AMINO

ACID PRODUCING BACTERIAL STRAINS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend this application as follows.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Page 1, at the top of the page, delete and insert therefor:

-- TITLE OF THE INVENTION

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Field of the Invention- -;

line 7, delete

"Background of the Invention";

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